

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing replaces all prior claim listings:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A composition for wound healing and minimizing adhesion to the wound comprising a physiologically acceptable salt of hyaluronic acid having molecular weight from 200,000 to 2,500,000, iodine and potassium iodide, forming a composition for wound healing and minimizing adhesion of a wound ~~wound~~ covering to a wound, wherein the composition is in the form of a sterile aqueous solution ~~or a gel~~ at a neutral pH.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 1 wherein said physiologically acceptable salt of hyaluronic acid is selected from at least one of a sodium salt, potassium salt, lithium salt, calcium salt, magnesium salt, zinc salt, cobalt salt or manganese salt.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the physiologically acceptable salt of hyaluronic acid is in the range from 0.05 to 10.0% by weight, the concentration of iodine is in the range from 0.05 to 2.5% by weight, and the concentration of potassium iodide is in the range from 0.05 to 5% by weight.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 3 wherein the concentration of the physiologically acceptable salt of hyaluronic acid is in the range from 0.05 to 10.0% by weight, the concentration of iodine is in the range from 0.075 to 1% by weight, and the concentration of potassium iodide is in the range from 0.075 to 1% by weight.

5. (CANCELED)

6. (WITHDRAWN) A method to enhance wound healing comprising providing to a wound a composition comprising a physiologically acceptable salt of hyaluronic acid and an iodine complex under conditions sufficient to enhance healing of the wound.

7. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 wherein the iodine complex comprises a solution of iodine and potassium iodine.

8. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 wherein the composition is provided directly to the wound.

9. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 wherein the composition is provided indirectly to the wound.

10. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 wherein the composition is provided to a wound-contacting portion of a wound covering.
11. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 10 wherein the covering is a bandage or a gauze.
12. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 11 further minimizing adherence of the wound-contacting portion to the wound.
13. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 disinfecting and reducing wound infection.
14. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 removing wound secretions thereby reducing wound maceration.
15. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 maintaining wound hydration.
16. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 enhancing granulation of wounded tissue.
17. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6 enhancing epithelial cell formation of wounded tissue
18. (WITHDRAWN) A method of minimizing wound adhesion of a wound-contacting surface of a wound covering, the method comprising providing a composition comprising hyaluronic acid, iodine, and potassium iodine and providing a covering to the wound, the covering having a wound-contacting surface with minimized wound adhesion.
19. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 18 providing the composition to the wound and thereafter providing the covering.
20. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 18 providing the composition to the wound-contacting surface of the covering to form a treated covering, and thereafter providing the treated covering to the wound.
21. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 18 wherein the covering is a bandage or a gauze.
22. (WITHDRAWN) A method to enhance wound healing comprising providing to a wound a biocompatible composition comprising hyaluronic acid, iodine, and potassium iodine for a sufficient duration to enhance wound healing.

23. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 22 wherein the composition is provided on a wound-contacting surface of a wound covering.
24. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 22 further comprising covering the wound.
25. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 22 further comprising intermittently monitoring the wound over the duration.
26. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 22 wherein the iodine and potassium iodine disinfect the wound.
27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A composition to enhance wound healing, the composition comprising a physiologically acceptable formulation of iodine, potassium iodide, and hyaluronic acid, wherein the composition is formulated as ~~at least one of a solution or a gel~~ at a neutral pH.
28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 comprising iodine at a concentration ranging from 0.05 to 2.5% by weight of the composition and potassium iodide at a concentration ranging from 0.05 to 5% by weight of the composition.
29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 wherein iodine is added to a potassium iodide solution to form an iodine solution for combining with a hyaluronate solution.
30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 wherein hyaluronic acid has a molecular weight ranging from 200,000 to 2,500,000.
31. (CANCELED)
32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 where the hyaluronic acid salt is at least one of sodium, potassium, lithium, calcium, magnesium, zinc, cobalt, or manganese.
33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 wherein hyaluronic acid salt is 0.05 to 10% by weight of the composition.
34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 wherein hyaluronic acid salt is 0.05 to 10% by weight, iodine is 0.075 to 1% by weight, and potassium iodide is 0.075 to 1% by weight.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 prepared by combining an iodine solution with a hyaluronic acid solution.

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 wherein iodine is dissolved in an aqueous solution of potassium iodide to form the iodine solution.

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 27 being viscous.

38. (NEW) A composition for wound healing and minimizing adhesion of a bandage to the wound, the composition comprising a physiologically acceptable salt of hyaluronic acid having molecular weight from 200,000 to 2,500,000, iodine and potassium iodide, wherein the composition is formed by combining a solution of sodium hyaluronate in sterile water at about neutral pH and a solution of iodine and potassium iodide in sterile water at about neutral pH.